

## Frederick County Government Frederick, Maryland

## News Release

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## COMMISSIONERS TO RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

FREDERICK, MD – Oliver Porter of <u>PPP Associates</u>, LLC, of Sandy Springs, Ga., will make a presentation to the Frederick Board of County Commissioners at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, in the first floor hearing room of Winchester Hall, 12 East Church Street, Frederick, Md. Mr. Porter will present his recommendations for cost savings for Frederick County Government through the creation of public-private partnerships in the delivery of county programs and services.

The meeting will be broadcast live on FCG TV, cable channel 19, and also webcast on <a href="https://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/video">www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/video</a>.

Board President Blaine Young said, "I and several members of this board ran for office with the pledge that we would redefine the role of government. On Thursday, we will hear of many opportunities to create public-private partnerships that will provide the same level of service for our citizens while helping us realize savings of ten percent or more. We continue to face a very challenging budget deficit and are seeking solutions that have proven their effectiveness in other jurisdictions. These solutions will not only help solve the structural deficit where we are spending more money than we are taking in, but they will reduce the taxes and regulatory burden on our residents.

"Frederick County leaders are on the forefront of bringing spending in line for the best interests of our taxpayers. We hope other government officials are taking notice of our leadership actions. We are facing our issues head-on in an effort to rein in government spending and simultaneously streamline operations."

The county commissioners and Mr. Porter held a <u>press briefing on April 12</u> to discuss the process by which they started exploring and identifying cost savings available through the creation of public-private partnerships. In March, the board approved payment of \$25,000 to Mr. Porter to conduct a study of current services in Frederick County Government, including data collection, interviews with county officials and an analysis of findings.

(more)

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Several commissioners and county officials visited <u>Sandy Springs</u>, Ga., in February to meet with city officials to personally learn more about the largest public-private partnership in the country that provides local government services. Mr. Porter was instrumental in establishing successful public-private partnerships in the City of Sandy Springs.

The City of Sandy Springs recently re-bid their public-private contract for general government services and will realize savings of more than \$7 million (approximately 29 percent). Considering the extraordinary financial challenges cities and counties are faced with today, city officials believe that the investment made in the procurement process will yield significant annual savings, allowing the city to continue to provide high levels of service and capital investments that their residents and businesses have come to expect. They see the public-private partnership model as a viable alternative to the traditional way governments deliver services and can also provide substantial savings. (Source: "Sandy Springs Selects New Contractors," May 17, 2011)

Since their trip to Sandy Springs, the county commissioners have been committed to exploring methods to reduce costs while still maintaining essential programs and services for Frederick County citizens. A public-private partnership would shift government employees to the private sector, but the basic responsibility for providing services and approving the scope of the services would remain with the commissioners.

The commissioners will schedule public meetings in the near future to receive feedback on the recommendations presented by Mr. Porter.

For additional information, contact Public Information Officer Robin Santangelo at 301-600-2590 or via e-mail at rsantangelo@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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